

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A computerized method for automatically configuring a firewall operating within an individual computer comprising:

determining a zone for a network address dynamically assigned to a network adapter in the individual computer; and

associating a security policy for the zone with the network adapter, the security policy specifying the firewall configuration to protect the individual computer.

2. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:

determining the network address assigned to the network adapter.

3. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the zone is defined by a set of network addresses.

4. (Original) The computerized method of claim 3, wherein the set of network addresses comprises at least one address within the zone.

5. (Currently amended) The computerized method of claim 3, wherein the set of network addresses comprises at least one address outside the zone.

6. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:

assigning the security policy to the zone.

7. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:

retrieving a policy file that contains definitions for the zone and the security policy and specifies that the security policy is assigned to the zone.

8. (Original) The computerized method of claim 7 further comprising:

creating the policy file from data input by a user.

9. (Original) The computerized method of claim 7 further comprising:
creating the policy file from data input by an administrator.
10. (Currently amended) The computerized method of claim 7 further comprising:
receiving data from a ~~pre-determined~~predetermined location on a network through the network adapter; and
creating the policy file from the data.
11. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions to automatically configure a firewall operating within an individual computer comprising:
determining a zone for a network address dynamically assigned to a network adapter in the individual computer; and
associating a security policy for the zone with the network adapter, the security policy specifying the firewall configuration to protect the individual computer.
12. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:
determining the network address assigned to the network adapter.
13. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:
assigning the security policy to the zone.
14. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:
retrieving a policy file that contains definitions for the zone and the security policy and specifies that the security policy is assigned to the zone.
15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

creating the policy file from data input by a user.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

creating the policy file from data input by an administrator.

17. (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

receiving data from a ~~pre-determined~~predetermined location on a network through the network adapter; and

creating the policy file from the data.

18. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

defining the zone based on a set of network addresses.

19. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

including at least one address within the zone in the set of network addresses.

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18 having further computer-readable instructions comprising:

including at least one address outside the zone in the set of network addresses.

21. (Currently amended) A computerized system comprising:

a processing unit;

a memory coupled to the processing unit through a bus;

a network adapter coupled to the processing unit through the bus and further operable for coupling to a network;

a firewall process executed from the memory by the processing unit to protect the computerized system when the network adapter is coupled to a network by causing the

processing unit to filter data addressed to the network adapter according to a security policy; and

a firewall configuration process executed from the memory by the processing unit to cause the processing unit to determine a zone for a network address dynamically assigned to the network adapter and to associate a firewall security policy for the zone with the network adapter.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The computerized system of claim 21 wherein the firewall configuration process is executed by the processing unit when the network address for the network adapter changes.

24. (Original) The computerized system of claim 21 wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to determine the network address of the network adapter.

25. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 21 wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to define the zone based on a set of network addresses.

26. (Original) The computerized system of claim 25, wherein the set of network addresses comprises at least one address within the zone.

27. (Original) The computerized system of claim 25, wherein the set of network addresses comprises at least one address outside the zone.

28. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 21, wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to assign the security policy to the zone.

29. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 21, wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to retrieve a policy file that contains definitions for the zone and the security policy and specifies that the security policy is assigned to the zone.

30. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 29, wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to receive data from a user and to create the policy file from the data.

31. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 29, wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to receive data from an administrator and to create the policy file from the data.

32. (Currently amended) The computerized system of claim 29, wherein the firewall configuration process further causes the processing unit to receive data from a ~~pre-determined~~predetermined location on a network through the network adapter and to create the policy file from the data.

33-40. (Cancelled)